



Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 2
819 Depot Avenue / Dixon, Illinois / 61021-3500
Telephone 815/284-2271

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT Studies & Plans

FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Ms. Teresa Regan
1353 Goose Hollow Road
Elizabeth, Illinois 61028

Dear Ms. Regan:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

In your comments, you expressed a concern that speeding causes many accidents on Route 20. The Illinois Department of Transportation can only designate speed limits. The enforcement of speed limits is the responsibility of the State Police or local law enforcement agencies.

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide a transportation facility that properly addresses existing and projected system deficiencies and seeks to improve the safety and efficiency of the transportation system. This would include the high level of trips caused by increasing economic development and recreational activity within the area. The proposed improvements will integrate the needs of travel safety, increased development, system capacity, community access, and system continuity.

To meet the transportation needs identified for the U.S. Route 20 corridor, the alternatives evaluated were a No-Action Alternative and two Build Alternatives, an expressway and freeway, both of which would be constructed as four-lane facilities.

Under the No-Action Alternative, the proposed project would not be constructed or implemented. However, this would perpetuate a functionally obsolete facility. The No-Action Alternative would not reduce congestion, improve traffic safety, provide system continuity, improve community access or meet the demands of economic development and recreational growth in the region.

The expressway alternatives generally follow the existing U.S. Route 20 alignment but incorporate bypasses around towns along the route. Expressways have partial access control and employ the use of at-grade intersections. The freeway alternatives would extend from IL Route 84, north of Galena, to Business U.S. Route 20 near Bolton Road, northwest of Freeport. Freeways are divided highway facilities and use interchanges to fully limit access control.

The Department has found that the Freeway Alternates would address traffic safety in the project corridor to a much higher degree than would the Expressway Alternates, due to the exclusion of at-grade intersections and the introduction of grade-separated interchanges. The Department's traffic crash data supports recent research indicating that grade-separated interchanges provide a much greater level of safety than at-grade and signalized intersections, such as would be constructed with the Expressway Alternates. Concerns regarding expressway safety would become more and more pertinent in the future as local development continues and opportunities for conflicts increase.

Based on its social, economic, environmental and engineering design studies, input from the general public and the recommendations of the U.S. Route 20 Advisory Council (made up of five regional Work Groups comprised of local officials and citizens), the Department has determined that Alternate 2, the Long Hollow Freeway with the South Simmons Mound variation, is the Preferred Alternate. This selection includes the proposed locations of interchanges.

To summarize the findings of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, the Department has found that compared to the other Build Alternates, Alternate 2:

1. has the least negative impact on environmental resources such as natural areas and threatened and endangered species;
2. best preserves prime and important farmland while minimizing adverse travel for farm operations and incompatible traffic mixing for farm vehicles;
3. best facilitates the travel and market access needs of the local communities;
4. provides the best opportunity to facilitate contiguous growth and development for communities in the U.S. Route 20 corridor;
5. generally avoids construction on or near ridge tops, thus making it consistent with JoDaviess County land-use initiatives;
6. provides for the maximum use of existing U.S. Route 20 as a scenic route for travelers;
7. supports the Stephenson County Comprehensive land-use plan which recommends a four-lane freeway; and
8. is one of the least costly alternates to build.

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

Ross E. Monk

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development



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US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Dr. William Wade
7315 US Highway 20
Galena, Illinois 61036

Dear Dr. Wade:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

In your comments, you stated a concern that the proposed construction would deny you access to your property. The Department proposes to investigate purchasing extra Right-of-Way along the SW ramp and possibly providing access from the cul-de-sac to your property. Our office will contact you regarding the status of your concern.

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

Ross E. Monk

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

SI/US 20 freeport galena/full input/wade



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US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Mr. David Jansen
Galena Territory Association
2000 Territory Drive
Galena, Illinois 61036

Dear Mr. Jansen:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

IDOT is currently conducting a feasibility study regarding the location of an interchange near the entrance to the Galena Territory. The presently proposed interchange is located near Devil's Ladder Road. We will provide you with a detailed explanation of our findings when the study is completed.

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

Ross E. Monk

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

SI/US 20 glacier shadow study/lbg/jansen



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August 20, 2003

Ms. Charlice Offenheiser
4380 South Derinda Road
Elizabeth, Illinois 61028

Dear Ms. Offenheiser:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

The Department has considered your concern regarding the Stockton Interchange and Illinois 78. The size and layout of this proposed interchange is based on meeting design criteria for grading and satisfying safety issues. The local roadway network is also effectively addressed.

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide a transportation facility that properly addresses existing and projected system deficiencies and seeks to improve the safety and efficiency of the transportation system. This would include the high level of trips caused by increasing economic development and recreational activity within the area. The proposed improvements will integrate the needs of travel safety, increased development, system capacity, community access, and system continuity.

To meet the transportation needs identified for the U.S. Route 20 corridor, the alternatives evaluated were a No-Action Alternative and two Build Alternatives, an expressway and freeway, both of which would be constructed as four-lane facilities.

Under the No-Action Alternative, the proposed project would not be constructed or implemented. However, this would perpetuate a functionally obsolete facility. The No-Action Alternative would not reduce congestion, improve traffic safety, provide system continuity, improve community access or meet the demands of economic development and recreational growth in the region.

Page 3
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

Ross E. Monk

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

Stus 20 freeport galena/lbg/offenheiser/charlice

Page 2
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study

The Department has found that the Freeway Alternates would address traffic safety in the project corridor to a much higher degree than would the Expressway Alternates, due to the exclusion of at-grade intersections and the introduction of grade-separated interchanges. The Department's traffic crash data supports recent research indicating that grade-separated interchanges provide a much greater level of safety than at-grade and signalized intersections, such as would be constructed with the Expressway Alternates. Concerns regarding expressway safety would become more and more pertinent in the future as local development continues and opportunities for conflicts increase.

Based on its social, economic, environmental and engineering design studies, input from the general public and the recommendations of the U.S. Route 20 Advisory Council (made up of five regional Work Groups comprised of local officials and citizens), the Department has determined that Alternate 2, the Long Hollow Freeway with the South Simmons Mound variation, is the Preferred Alternate. This selection includes the proposed locations of interchanges.

To summarize the findings of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, the Department has found that compared to the other Build Alternates, Alternate 2:

1. has the least negative impact on environmental resources such as natural areas and threatened and endangered species;
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3. best facilitates the travel and market access needs of the local communities;
4. provides the best opportunity to facilitate contiguous growth and development for communities in the U.S. Route 20 corridor;
5. generally avoids construction on or near ridge tops, thus making it consistent with JoDaviess County land-use initiatives;
6. provides for the maximum use of existing U.S. Route 20 as a scenic route for travelers;
7. supports the Stephenson County Comprehensive land-use plan which recommends a four-lane freeway; and
8. is one of the least costly alternates to build.

The Visual Impact Analysis concluded that the proposed project, with appropriate landscaping as well as structural and roadway design, can be constructed to limit significant, adverse, and long term impacts to the existing aesthetic qualities of the project area. Visual impact reduction recommendations as identified in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be incorporated into the final design to ensure that the proposed highway will function to complement the natural landscape. All possible measures will be employed to enhance the views of the road and views from the road. In addition, parcels landlocked by the proposed freeway will be used for environmental mitigation, or if desired, access will be given to land owners where possible.

The US 20 Advisory Council, made up of five Work Groups comprised of local citizens and officials, also recommended that the Department provide special signage along the Preferred Alternate for tourism features, design aesthetically pleasing highway features such as retaining walls and bridges, and plant trees and vegetation to enhance views. The Preferred Alternate also reinforces both the JoDaviess and Stephenson County land-use plans by avoiding ridgetop construction to a large degree.



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August 20, 2003

Mr. Alan Bird
Ms. Beth Bird
2660 West Longhollow Road
Elizabeth, Illinois 61028

Dear Mr. and Ms. Bird:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

The Department understands the difficult situation in which you have been placed because of the proposed freeway alignment. Enclosed for your information and better understanding of IDOT's land acquisition process is a brochure entitled "Highway Improvements & Property Rights" and a booklet entitled "A Landowner's Guide to Land Acquisition by the State and Eminent Domain". These documents provide general information concerning the procedures that lead to the acquisition of right of way and the citizen's rights and privileges before, during, and after such acquisition.

The State of Illinois expects to build the project in approximately seven usable construction sections, each section taking 2-3 years to construct. The entire project between Galena and Freeport could take 15-20 years to complete, or even longer, depending on availability of funds. In the interim, all affected owners should continue to maintain their property, as condition will be considered in the future appraisal of property and buildings to be acquired.

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Under the No-Action Alternative, the proposed project would not be constructed or implemented. However, this would perpetuate a functionally obsolete facility. The No-Action Alternative would not reduce congestion, improve traffic safety, provide system continuity, improve community access or meet the demands of economic development and recreational growth in the region.

The expressway alternatives generally follow the existing U.S. Route 20 alignment but incorporate bypasses around towns along the route. Expressways have partial access control and employ the use of at-grade intersections. The freeway alternatives would extend from IL Route 84, north of Galena, to Business U.S. Route 20 near Bolton Road, northwest of Freeport. Freeways are divided highway facilities and use interchanges to fully limit access control.

The Department has found that the Freeway Alternates would address traffic safety in the project corridor to a much higher degree than would the Expressway Alternates, due to the exclusion of at-grade intersections and the introduction of grade-separated interchanges. The Department's traffic crash data supports recent research indicating that grade-separated interchanges provide a much greater level of safety than at-grade and signalized intersections, such as would be constructed with the Expressway Alternates. Concerns regarding expressway safety would become more and more pertinent in the future as local development continues and opportunities for conflicts increase.

Based on its social, economic, environmental and engineering design studies, input from the general public and the recommendations of the U.S. Route 20 Advisory Council (made up of five regional Work Groups comprised of local officials and citizens), the Department has determined that Alternate 2, the Long Hollow Freeway with the South Simmons Mound variation, is the Preferred Alternate. This selection includes the proposed locations of interchanges.

To summarize the findings of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, the Department has found that compared to the other Build Alternates, Alternate 2:

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August 20, 2003

Mr. Karl Johnson
202 South Main Street
Galena, Illinois 61036

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide a transportation facility that properly addresses existing and projected system deficiencies and seeks to improve the safety and efficiency of the transportation system. This would include the high level of trips caused by increasing community and economic development within the area. The proposed improvements will integrate the needs of travel safety, increased development, system capacity, community access, and system continuity.

Thank you for your support of this important highway improvement project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/us20 Freeport Galena/lbg/johnson

The Visual Impact Analysis concluded that the proposed project, with appropriate landscaping as well as structural and roadway design, can be constructed to limit significant, adverse, and long term impacts to the existing aesthetic qualities of the project area. Visual impact reduction recommendations as identified in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be incorporated into the final design to ensure that the proposed highway will function to complement the natural landscape. All possible measures will be employed to enhance the views of the road and views from the road.

The US 20 Advisory Council, made up of five Work Groups comprised of local citizens and officials, also recommended that the Department provide special signage along the Preferred Alternate for tourism features, design aesthetically pleasing highway features such as retaining walls and bridges, and plant trees and vegetation to enhance views. The Preferred Alternate also reinforces both the JoDaviess and Stephenson County land-use plans by avoiding ridgetop construction to a large degree.

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

Enclosure

St/us 20 freeport galena/lbg/bird



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August 20, 2003

Mr. Robert Raymond
10 Saddleback Road
Galena, Illinois 61036

Dear Mr. Raymond:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

IDOT is currently conducting a feasibility study regarding the location of an interchange near the entrance to the Galena Territory. The presently proposed interchange is located near Devil's Ladder Road. We will provide you with a detailed explanation of our findings when the study is completed. We are also in the process of reviewing your other recent suggestions regarding the roadway alignment.

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/us 20 glacier shadow study pass/lbg/ramond



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US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Mr. Florian Cholewinski
1478 Velteria
Elizabeth, Illinois 61028

Dear Mr. Cholewinski:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

South Woodbine Road is being realigned so that it passes over the proposed U.S. Route 20 and continues to existing U.S. Route 20. The southern portion of S. Woodbine Road will be closed (cul-de-sac) just north of the proposed U.S. Route 20. Access to E. Woodbine Road from S. Woodbine Road will still be possible by traveling south on realigned S. Woodbine Road to Fahrion Road and north on Fahrion Road to E. Woodbine Road. Farm machinery will not be allowed on the proposed U.S. Route 20 so there will not be any conflicts on the proposed highway.

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/US 20 Freeport Galena/tbg/cholewinski

Page 2
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study

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Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/US 20 freeport galena/tbg/armold



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August 20, 2003

Mr. Gerald Arnold
3564 East Woodbine Road
Elizabeth, Illinois 61028

Dear Mr. Arnold:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

The Department has considered your suggestion regarding the area near Woodbine. However, due to system benefit and design criteria, your suggestion has not been implemented. The selection of the preferred alternate, including the location of interchanges, involved detailed engineering studies and extensive local coordination.

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide a transportation facility that properly addresses existing and projected system deficiencies and seeks to improve the safety and efficiency of the transportation system. This would include the high level of trips caused by increasing economic development and recreational activity within the area. The proposed improvements will integrate the needs of travel safety, increased development, system capacity, community access, and system continuity.

To meet the transportation needs identified for the U.S. Route 20 corridor, the alternates evaluated were a No-Action Alternative and two Build Alternates, an expressway and freeway, both of which would be constructed as four-lane facilities.

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August 20, 2003

Mr. Bob Achille
Ms. Kathy Achille
1201 South Scout Camp Road
Elizabeth, Illinois 61028

Dear Mr. and Ms. Achille:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

Please be assured that access to your property will be provided in a way that the access will be at least equal to or better than your existing access. This will be provided to you at no cost and to your satisfaction.

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/US 20 freeport galena/tbg/achille



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Mayor Jim Gitz
City of Freeport
230 West Stephenson Street
Freeport, Illinois 61032

Dear Mayor Gitz:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

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Thank you for your support of this important highway improvement project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
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By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

ST/us20 Freeport Galena/lbg/gitz



Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 2
819 Depot Avenue / Dixon, Illinois / 61021-3500
Telephone 815/284-2271

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Sections 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5, & 177-1
JoDaviss and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Glen and Julie Smith
2692 North AYP Road
Freeport, Illinois 61032

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Smith:

Thank you for your Comment Sheet from the US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Public Hearing held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center, in Galena.

The Department is currently investigating a new alignment for AYP/Cook intersection that will balance the need to meet design standards and the need to reduce impact to property owners in the area. When the investigation is concluded, we will address your comments by providing you with a plan view of the revised design, for your further review.

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

ST/vy-0105/pk us glacier doc



Illinois Department of Transportation

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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
JoDaviss and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Mr. Lee Freedlund
9568 East Binkley Road
Stockton, Illinois 61085

Dear Mr. Freedlund:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide a transportation facility that properly addresses existing and projected system deficiencies and seeks to improve the safety and efficiency of the transportation system. This would include the high level of trips caused by increasing community and economic development within the area. The proposed improvements will integrate the needs of travel safety, increased development, system capacity, community access, and system continuity.

Thank you for your support of this important highway improvement project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

ST/us20 Freeport Galena/lbg/freedlund



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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Sections 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5, & 177-1
JoDaviss and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Jeffrey White
2193 AYP Road
Freeport, Illinois 61032

Dear Mr. White:

Thank you for your Comment Sheet from the US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Public Hearing held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center, in Galena.

The Department is currently investigating a new alignment for AYP/Cook intersection that will balance the need to meet design standards and the need to reduce impact to property owners in the area. When the investigation is concluded, we will address your comments by providing you with a plan view of the revised design, for your further review.

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

ST/vy-0105 us glacier/pk



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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Sections 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5, & 177-1
JoDaviss and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Marlene Hocraffer
2549 Royal Oaks Drive
Freeport, Illinois 61032

Dear Ms. Hocraffer:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

The Department understands the difficult situation in which you have been placed because of the proposed freeway alignment bisecting and landlocking portions of your property. Enclosed for your information and better understanding of IDOT's land acquisition process is a brochure entitled "Highway Improvements & Property Rights" and a booklet entitled "A Landowner's Guide to Land Acquisition by the State and Eminent Domain". These documents provide general information concerning the procedures that lead to the acquisition of right of way and the citizen's rights and privileges before, during, and after such acquisition.

Generally, the Department remains flexible when dealing with landlocked parcels. Two possible compensation options exist. The Department either pays severance damages or purchases the remnant. When compensations take place, the Department is obligated to pay a just level of compensation, which will include any fair market value reduction of the remaining property. This would extend to purchase of buildings as well as land.

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

Ross E. Monk

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

Enclosure

ST/vy-0106 us glacier 2 rsnps/jk



Illinois Department of Transportation

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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
JoDaviss and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Mr. Mike Kleckner
Ms. Julie Kleckner
465 West Columbia Avenue
Stockton, Illinois 61085

Dear Mr. and Ms. Kleckner:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

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Generally, the Department remains flexible when dealing with landlocked parcels. Two possible compensation options exist. The Department either pays severance damages or purchases the remnant. When compensations take place, the Department is obligated to pay a just level of compensation, which will include any fair market value reduction of the remaining property. This would extend to purchase of buildings as well as land.

Page 2
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study

The State of Illinois expects to build the project in approximately seven usable construction sections, each section taking 2-3 years to construct. The entire project between Galena and Freeport could take 15-20 years to complete, or even longer, depending on availability of funds. In the interim, all affected owners should continue to maintain their property, as condition will be considered in the future appraisal of property and buildings to be acquired.

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

Ross E. Monk

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

Enclosure

ST/us 20 freeport galena/full input/kleckner



Illinois Department of Transportation

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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Ms. Mindy Morhardt
8584 West Wagner Road
Lena, Illinois 61048

Dear Ms. Morhardt:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present IDOT's planned improvements to US 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

The purpose of this proposed highway is to provide a transportation facility that properly addresses existing and projected system deficiencies and seeks to improve the safety and efficiency of the transportation system. This would include the high level of trips caused by increasing community and economic development within the area. The proposed improvements will integrate the needs of travel safety, increased development, system capacity, community access, and system continuity.

The Department understands the difficult situation in which you have been placed because of the proposed freeway alignment. Enclosed for your information and better understanding of IDOT's land acquisition process is a brochure entitled "Highway Improvements & Property Rights" and a booklet entitled "A Landowner's Guide to Land Acquisition by the State and Eminent Domain". These documents provide general information concerning the procedures that lead to the acquisition of right of way and the citizen's rights and privileges before, during, and after such acquisition.

The State of Illinois expects to build the project in approximately seven usable construction sections, each section taking 2-3 years to construct. The entire project between Galena and Freeport could take 15-20 years to complete, or even longer, depending on availability of funds. In the interim, all affected owners should continue to maintain their property, as condition will be considered in the future appraisal of property and buildings to be acquired.

Page 2
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

Ross E. Monk

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

Enclosure

St/US 20 freeport galena/partial input/morhardt



Illinois Department of Transportation

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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Mr. Roger Kerr
Freeport Gallena Association of Realtors
18 West Stephenson Street
Freeport, Illinois 61032

Dear Mr. Kerr:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide a transportation facility that properly addresses existing and projected system deficiencies and seeks to improve the safety and efficiency of the transportation system. This would include the high level of trips caused by increasing community and economic development within the area. The proposed improvements will integrate the needs of travel safety, increased development, system capacity, community access, and system continuity.

Thank you for your support of this important highway improvement project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

Ross E. Monk

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/US20 Freeport Galena/bg/kerr



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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

The Honorable Jim Sacia
State Representative
19 South Chicago
Freeport, Illinois 61032

Dear Representative Sacia:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide a transportation facility that properly addresses existing and projected system deficiencies and seeks to improve the safety and efficiency of the transportation system. This would include the high level of trips caused by increasing community and economic development within the area. The proposed improvements will integrate the needs of travel safety, increased development, system capacity, community access, and system continuity.

Thank you for your support of this important highway improvement project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

Ross E. Monk

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/US20 Freeport Galena/bg/sacia



Illinois Department of Transportation

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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Mr. Richard Kort
118 East Iroquois
Freeport, Illinois 61032

Dear Mr. Kort:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

You expressed an understandable concern about the maintenance and/or snow removal for a new highway. The Department makes every effort to provide the highest quality service level on all roadways in our jurisdiction and will continue to do so. Ongoing maintenance costs represent a substantial portion of IDOT's annual budget, and increases in maintenance expenses have been considered in the decisions made. District 2 has been a leader in applying innovative materials and utilizing the latest technologies in all of our maintenance activities (e.g. weather monitoring technologies) to aid in minimizing poor road conditions. Note that the 12-county District 2 area currently has about 5000 lane miles, so the increased maintenance responsibility would be less than four percent. State-wide the percentage would be well below one percent.

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/US 20 Freeport Galena/tbg/monk



Illinois Department of Transportation

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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Ms. Yoric Knapp
926 West Stephenson Street
Freeport, Illinois 61032

Dear Mr. Knapp:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide a transportation facility that properly addresses existing and projected system deficiencies and seeks to improve the safety and efficiency of the transportation system. This would include the high level of trips caused by increasing community and economic development within the area. The proposed improvements will integrate the needs of travel safety, increased development, system capacity, community access, and system continuity.

Thank you for your support of this important highway improvement project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/US 20 Freeport Galena/tbg/knapp



Illinois Department of Transportation

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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Mr. James Fox
686 South Carthage Drive
Freeport, Illinois 61032

Dear Mr. Fox:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

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Thank you for your support of this important highway improvement project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/US 20 Freeport Galena/tbg/fox



Illinois Department of Transportation

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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study - Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Mr. Ed Yde
406 South Park Boulevard
Freeport, Illinois 61032

Dear Mr. Yde:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

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Thank you for your support of this important highway improvement project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/US 20 Freeport Galena/tbg/yde



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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study – Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Mr. Dave Fonda
2761 Deer Path Trail
Freeport, Illinois 61032

Dear Mr. Fonda:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide a transportation facility that properly addresses existing and projected system deficiencies and seeks to improve the safety and efficiency of the transportation system. This would include the high level of trips caused by increasing community and economic development within the area. The proposed improvements will integrate the needs of travel safety, increased development, system capacity, community access, and system continuity.

Thank you for your support of this important highway improvement project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/US20 Freeport Galena/lbg/fonda



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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study – Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Mr. Jim Kuhlmeier
3216 East Cedarville Road
Kakota, Illinois 61018

Dear Mr. Kuhlmeier:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

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Thank you for your support of this important highway improvement project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/US20 Freeport Galena/lbg/kuhlmeier



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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study – Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Mr. Charles Conway
2902 Acorn Drive
Freeport, Illinois 61032

Dear Mr. Conway:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide a transportation facility that properly addresses existing and projected system deficiencies and seeks to improve the safety and efficiency of the transportation system. This would include the high level of trips caused by increasing community and economic development within the area. The proposed improvements will integrate the needs of travel safety, increased development, system capacity, community access, and system continuity.

Thank you for your support of this important highway improvement project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/US 20 Freeport Galena/lbg/conway



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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
Studies & Plans
FAP Route 301 (US 20)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Glacier Shadow Pass Study – Galena to Freeport

August 20, 2003

Mr. Greg Gallagher
5493 Stagecoach Trail
Apple River, Illinois 61001

Dear Mr. Gallagher:

Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) Public Hearing that was held on June 25, 2003 at Highland Community College in Freeport, and on June 26, 2003 at the Galena Convention Center in Galena, for proposed improvements to U.S. Route 20 from Freeport to Galena. The hearing was held to present the Department's planned improvements to U.S. Route 20 and to solicit public input. Approximately 600 people attended the hearing and numerous comments were provided.

The Department has considered your suggestion regarding an interchange at Stagecoach Trail. However, due to the proximity to Horseshoe Mound interchange and design criteria for grades at interchanges, your suggestion has not been implemented.

Again, thank you for your input concerning the US 20 project. Your comments will become a permanent part of the project record. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCormick at (815)284-5513.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Mounts
District Engineer

By: Ross E. Monk
Engineer of Program Development

St/US 20 freeport galena/lbg/gallagher